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(iii) Yes, under one of the conditions of the agreement, the contractor is required to comply with the demand of the public for fuel for genuine domestic consumption or for timber for the local industrial works of the villages, at the departmental rates.

(iv) Receipts are issued by the contractors in the form of permits to the purchasers.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" In view of the fact that the contractors are not keeping on to the contract, may I know whether the Government are prepared to ask for a register of sales of agricultural implements and see that some species are earmarked for the manufacture of agricultural implements ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I shall consider the suggestion of my hon. Friend."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" What are the steps the Government have taken to see that the timber made available for the manufacture of agricultural implements is really fit for the purpose ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" So far as I know there has been no complaint. If my hon. Friend asserts that there is a complaint I shall be glad to make enquiries."

Notification of sale of agricultural implements by the District Forest Officer, Kurnool.

*622 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have perused the notification of sale of agricultural implements by the District Forest Officer, Kurnool East, at page 46 of the Forest Supplement to the *Kurnool District Gazette*, dated 3rd August 1928 ;

(b) whether this notification was published in consultation with the Collector of Kurnool ; and

(c) if so, whether he approved of such a notification ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) No. But the Government understand that the Collector had approved of the essentials of this notification in April 1926 and that since then a notification on the approved lines has been issued each year. The Conservator has been instructed to see that such notifications are published in future with the previous approval of the Collector in each case.

Enquiry into the death of Mr. Ponnayya.

*623 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : With reference to the answers given to my question No. 1818 on the 29th March 1928, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that 14 villagers of the village of Thirumulla were summoned for enquiry at Thirumulla Range office on the 18th November 1926 held by the Assistant Conservator of Forests touching the matter of the death of Ponnayya, the Ranger ; and if they have no information, whether they will enquire into the matter ;

(b) whether the Government have 'looked into the matter' of the conduct of the Sub-Inspector against whom the Divisional Officer of Markapur had made remarks in this case;

(c) whether the Government have decided that the enquiry by the Sub-Inspector and his chief on the spot and by the Sub-Magistrate sitting at Giddalur were sufficient to satisfy the ends of justice in this case;

(d) whether the Government have taken from Mr. Saiduddin Ahmed Sahib Bahadur, District Forest Officer, any statement as to what conversation passed exactly between the District Forest Officer and Mr. Ponnayya for 15 minutes at 1 p.m. and half an hour between 6 and 7 p.m. on that fateful day;

(e) whether the Government have ever tried to ascertain who were all present about the scene in or about the place of the conversation and what they had to state in connexion with the death of Mr. Ponnayya; and

(f) whether the Government have taken an explanation from the said District Forest Officer why he considered it necessary to hold two long conversations with a ranger who was under suspension?

A.—(a) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Government have taken no statement. A report of what transpired then was made by the District Forest Officer in a letter to the Conservator under date 21st September 1926.

(e) The statement of the persons present at or near the scene were taken by the Taluk and Stationary Sub-Magistrate at the enquiry held on 19th September 1926 and 23rd October 1926.

(f) No. The Government have not considered it necessary to take any such explanation.

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao:—"May I know with reference to the answer to clause (b) of this question what has really been done in the matter and how the Government have disposed of the question?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"From enquiries carefully made, the Government are convinced that the Sub-Inspector is not in any way to blame."

Mr. Daniel Thomas:—"May I know under what circumstances the ranger met with his death?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"He committed suicide."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao:—"May I know whether, after the event and after so much of doubt cast upon the affair in so far as the enquiry was conducted only by the Inspector and Circle Inspector on the spot, the Government are not prepared to take an explanation from the District Forest Officer as to why he considered it necessary to hold two long conversations with the ranger?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"As a matter of fact, with reference to the first part of my hon. Friend's question, I may say that it is not only the Circle Inspector and the Magistrate that made enquiries, but the Deputy Superintendent of Police also made enquiries; the District Superintendent of Police made enquiries and the District Magistrate went through all the records and was satisfied that the conclusion arrived at by the Police officers was right.

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"With reference to the second part of my hon. Friend's question, my answer is that in the report sent by the District Forest Officer he says that there were no long conversations. There were two conversations, one at about 1 p.m. and the other in the evening and there was nothing particular in those conversations. They were only ordinary conversations."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"May I know whether the first conversation did not last for 15 minutes and the second for 30 minutes?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"No."

Shooting of a rogue elephant in Puttur taluk.

*624 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased—

(a) to place on the table of this House the communication L. Dis. C. No. 1887/Sub. 28, dated 29th May 1928, of the President, Puttur Taluk Board, in regard to the shooting of a rogue elephant and the reply communication of the District Forest Officer concerned to the former ; and

(b) to state what objections the Government have to take immediate steps themselves and have the animal shot at their own expense?

A.—(a) The papers [a] are placed on the table.

(b) No special Government establishment is maintained for the destruction of rogue elephants. The declaration of a wild elephant as a rogue is usually sufficient to attract sportsmen.

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—"In view of the fact that this elephant has been out at large for over two years, do the Government consider that simply notifying it is enough?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"The District Forest Officer has also suggested to the Collector the need for granting a special permit to a very good shikari, one Kalleri Ramachandra Ayyar, to go and shoot even in the reserved forest."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Any reward, Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"As a matter of fact, the tusks in such cases are given, if applied for."

Education

Establishment of vocational schools.

*625 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any vocational schools have been established during 1927–28 ; and

(b) whether any and, if so, what steps have been taken by Government for the spread of vocational education during 1927–28?

a Printed as Appendix IV on pages 119–120 infra.